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Redactie: Dr. J.-P. Borie (Compiègne, France), Dr. L. De Bruyn (Antwerpen), T. C. Garrevoet (Antwerpen), B. Goater (Chandlers Ford, England), Dr. K. Maes (Tervuren), Dr. K. Martens (Brussel), H. van Oorschot (Amsterdam), W. O. De Prins (Leefdaal).

Redactie-adres: W. O. De Prins, Dorpstraat 401B, B-3061 Leefdaal (Belgium).

e-mail: willy.de.prins@telenet.be.

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A new species of the genus *Thevenetimyia* (Diptera: Bombyliidae, Ecliminae) from Iran with notes about the male of *Thevenetimyia hirta*

Jozeff Dils

Abstract. A new species in the genus *Thevenetimyia* is described from Iran. Differential characters of the sexual dimorphism in *Thevenetimyia hirta* (Loew, 1876) are discussed and a key to the Palaearctic *Thevenetimyia* species is provided.

Samenvatting. Een nieuwe soort in het genus *Thevenetimyia* (Diptera: Bombyliidae, Ecliminae) uit Iran met notities over het mannetje van *Thevenetimyia hirta*

Een nieuwe soort in het genus *Thevenetimyia* wordt beschreven uit Iran. Onderscheidende kenmerken in het seksueel dimorfisme van *Thevenetimyia hirta* (Loew, 1876) worden besproken en een determineersleutel voor de Palaearctische *Thevenetimyia*-soorten wordt gegeven.

Résumé. Une nouvelle espèce du genre *Thevenetimyia* (Diptera: Bombyliidae: Ecliminae) d'Iran avec des notes sur le mâle de *Thevenetimyia hirta*

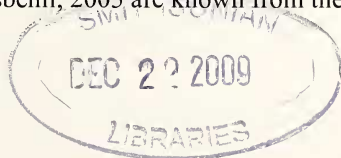
Une espèce nouvelle est décrite dans le genre *Thevenetimyia* en provenance d'Iran. Des caractères de dimorphisme sexuel de *Thevenetimyia hirta* (Loew, 1876) sont discutés et une clef de détermination pour les espèces paléarctiques du genre *Thevenetimyia* est donnée.

Key words: New species – Iran – *Thevenetimyia hirta* – New species – Key

Dils, J.: Krekberg 149, B-2940 Hoevenen. jos.dils@pandora.be.

Introduction

Thevenetimyia is a predominantly Nearctic genus of the subfamily Ecliminae which seems to be rather elusive, never being collected in great numbers in the Palaearctic region. Diagnostic differences between the genera *Eclimus* and *Thevenetimyia* are clearly defined by Hall (1969). To date only three species of the subgenus *Thevenetimyia*, *T. hirta* (Loew, 1876), *T. quedenfeldti* Engel, 1885 and *T. zerrinae* Hasbenli, 2005 are known from the Palaearctic region.



The single male specimen described here was collected by Dr. Joachim Ziegler in the Khorassan Province in north-east Iran. With only one specimen available for study, and given the distinctiveness of this species within the Palaearctic, it was decided not to dissect it. The holotype will be placed in the Museum für Naturkunde, Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, Germany (ZMHB).

Description

Diagnosis: The combination of hyaline wings, hairy flagella and yellow lateral margins of the tergites forming a continuous yellow line, distinguish this species from all other known Palaearctic *Thevenetimyia*.

Material examined: Holotype ♂: Asadli (Kuh-e Aladag) S of Bojnurd Valley, Khorasan Province, Iran, 37°16'02" N 057°22'36" E, 1970 m, 03.VI.2006, leg. Joachim Ziegler, coll. ZMHB.

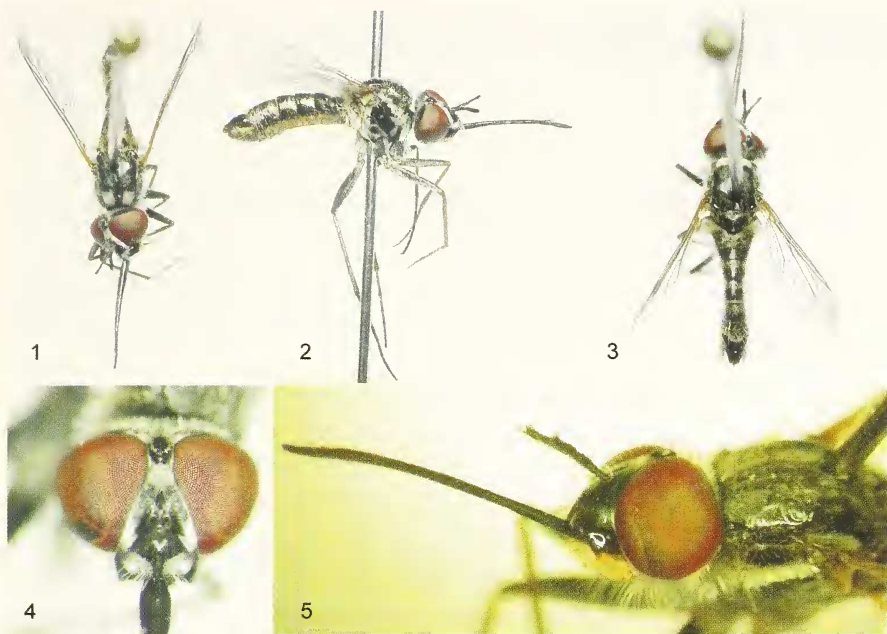
***Thevenetimyia ziegleri* sp. n.**

Male.

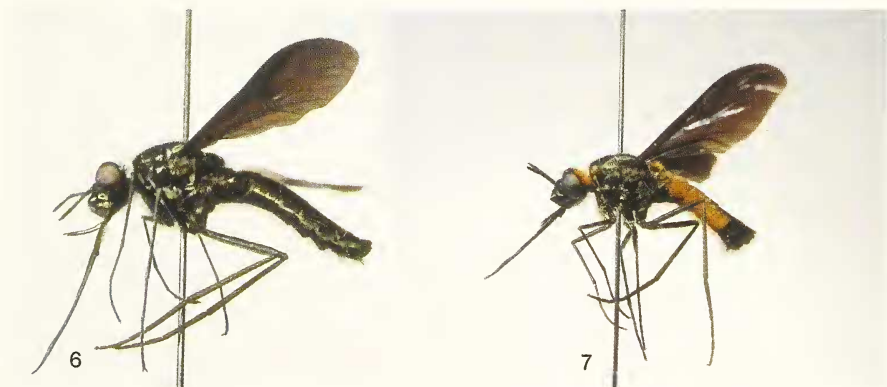
Head: Ground colour shining black except the lower half of the gena which are yellow. Eyes separated by the width of the ocellar tubercle. White hairs on the face, frons and lower half of the head as long as the scape, on occiput as long as the pedicel. White hairs on face and frons mixed with a few brown ones. Hairs on tubercle brown to black. Frons dusted silvery grey in front of ocellus and laterally, continuing along the inner margin of the eyes, the area from the bucal rim towards the eyes and the venter of the head to halfway up the occiput also silvery dusted. Antenna, dorsally with short stout black hairs, the scape in addition with a few long white hairs ventrally. Flagellum with a circlet of black hairs near apex. Ratio of antennal segments 20-4-30. Proboscis as long as abdomen, palpal segments not protruding beyond the bucal rim, with brown hairs (figs. 4, 5).

Thorax: Ground colour shining black, with silvery grey dusting on mesonotum, laterotergite, meron, coxae, the anterior part of the anepisternum and the anterior part of the katepisternum. White hairs and a row of pure white scales on the anepisternum and on all coxae. Mesonotum sparsely covered with approximated yellowish scales, with whitish and black bristle like hairs and fine black hairs dorsally. Prealar bristles yellow. Scutellum with black hairs and setae, small tufts of fine yellowish scales on the lateral margins and at the tip (figs. 1, 3, 5).

Legs: All femora black with yellow knees, tibia and tarsi reddish brown with small black scales. All femora with whitish scales. Femur 1 basally with numerous short setae, femora 2 and 3 a few only. Pulvilli rudimentary.



Figs. 1–5. *Thevenetimyia zieglerei* sp. n. Holotype ♂, Iran, Khorasan province, Asadli (Kuh-e Aladag), S of Bojnurd Valley, N 37°16'02" E 057°22'36", 1970 m, 03.VI.2006, leg. Joachim Ziegler, ZMHB; 1.– Dorsal view of head; 2.– Lateral view; 3.– Lateral view of abdomen; 4.– Dorsal view of head; 5.– Lateral view of head.



Figs. 6–7. *Thevenetimyia hirta* (Loew, 1876), Greece, Atika, Mount Gerania, 445 m, N 38°01'40,3" E 23°11'23,9", 30.v.2007, leg. Dils J.-Faes J; 6.– Male; 7.– Female.

Abdomen: Ground colour shining black, except lateral margins of tergites which are yellow, resulting in shiny yellow longitudinal bands along whole length ventro-laterally. Tergites and sternites sparsely covered by yellowish scales, with yellowish hairs along the margins. Basistilum black, epandrium black and yellow with black hairs as long as flagellum (figs. 1, 3, 5).

Wings: Hyaline, r-m placed beyond the middle of the discal cell. Anal cell and R5 widely open at wing margin (fig. 3).

Etymology: The species is named after Dr. Joachim Ziegler of the ZMHB Museum für Naturkunde, Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, Germany who collected the holotype.

***Thevenetimyia hirta* (Loew, 1876)**

In his paper, Hall (1969) mentioned that Loew (1876) and Paramonow (1931) described a male and Engel (1932) the female of this species. I have studied the holotype in the Museum für Naturkunde, Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, Germany, and it turned out to be a female as well. Therefore Loew described the female instead of the male, and this description, together with the mistake in gender, was copied by Paramonow (1931).

Furthermore, Hall (1969) wrote that he has seen one male and one female of this species, both from Greece, Peloponnese, without dates and they seem to have both reddish-yellow hairs. The male of *Thevenetimyia hirta* (fig. 6) is, to my knowledge, not described yet.

My wife and I have collected this species (2♂ and 4♀) in Greece on Mt. Gerania, Atika, in 2007. Also in Greece, two male specimens were collected in 2004 by H. Vandenheuvel at Kamena Vourla, Phtiotis. All females, collected at the first location had, as described by Loew, reddish-yellow hairs and an admixture of fine elongated scales of the same colour on occiput, humeral calli, scutellum and sides of the abdomen (fig. 7). All the males so far collected have only black hairs on occiput, humeral calli, scutellum and sides of the abdomen without any admixture of scales. The eyes of the male are separated by the width of the ocellar tubercle, in the female by twice the distance of the width of the tubercle.

Also Hall (1969) has misidentified females for males, because he mentions that both the specimens he has seen, have a reddish-yellow pile on the occiput, humeral calli, and sides of the abdomen (scutellum?). The mesonotum of the male specimens I have studied have rows of cones (murications), as found in other species of *Thevenetimyia*. In Hall's (1969) paper it is not clear if one of the specimens he studied had this feature.

Apart from the sexual characters and more approximated eyes, the male differs from the female only in the absence of the reddish-yellow hairs and scales.

The type specimen of the Museum für Naturkunde, Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, Germany bears the following labels: Acarnan // 9662 // Akarnan / Krüper S. // *Thevenemyia* / *hirtus* (Lw) / det J. C. Hall // *Eclimus* / *hirtus* Lw. / Dr. E. O. Engel det. // Type.

Engel (1932) and Hall (1969) both mentioned that the specimen was collected on the Peloponnese. However, this type specimen was collected by Krüper in Akarnan, the present Etoloakarnania. This is not on the Peloponnese, but in mainland Greece. None of the specimens I have seen thus far, originated from the Peloponnese.

Key to the Palaearctic *Thevenetimyia*

1. – Occiput with reddish-yellow hairs and scales *hirta* ♀
 – Occiput with other pile 2
2. – Occiput with black hairs *hirta* ♂
 – Occiput with white, yellowish or brownish hairs 3
3. – Occiput with yellowish hairs and legs reddish-yellow *zerrinae* ♂
 – Occiput with white or brownish hairs, femora black 4
4. – Flagellum with a circlet of black hairs near apex, wings hyaline ... *ziegleri* ♂
 – Flagellum bare, wings smoke brown *quedenfeldti* ♂, ♀

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